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THE UNION STATE PLATFORM.

"United in a common cause for the sacred purpose of preserving the principles of government by the whole people, in fact as well as in name, restoring and maintaining equality, under that government, of all classes, we, the peoples democratic and silver republican parties of the state of Oregon, waiving all points of difference, and uniting for the purpose of carrying out the great underlying principles, and to the carrying out of which we solemnly pledge each and every candidate upon our united ticket:

First—We demand the free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1, without waiting for the consent of foreign nations, and we are unalterably opposed to the policy of the present republican administration in demanding the retirement of greenbacks, and the turning over of the money-making power of the government to the national banks, as presented by the bill drawn by the republican secretary of the treasury, and endorsed by President McKinley, and we especially denounce the avowed attempt by said bill to fasten the country irrevocably and forever to the single gold standard.

We demand a national money, safe and sound, issued by the general government only, without the intervention of banks of issue, to be a full legal tender for all debts, public and private; also a just, equitable and efficient means of distribution direct to the people through the lawful disbursements of the government.

We demand that the volume of circulating medium be speedily increased to an amount sufficient to meet the demands of the business and population of this country and to restore the just level of prices of labor and production.

We favor such legislation as will prevent for the future the demonetization of any kind of legal tender money by private contract.

We demand that the government, in payment of its obligations, shall use its option as to the kind of lawful money in which they are to be paid, and we denounce the present and preceding administrations for surrendering this option to the holders of government obligations.

We demand that there shall be no further issue of United States interest bearing bonds.

We demand that postal savings banks be established by the government for the safe deposit of the savings of the people and to facilitate exchange.

We demand the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people.

We demand the Initiative and Referendum system of law making in its optional form, local, state and national; and the submission by congress of all important national questions for an advisory vote of the people, until such time as the national constitution shall have been amended so as to provide for direct legislation.

We condemn as dangerous and unjust the surrender, in all the departments of the government, to the influence of trusts, corporations and aggregations of wealth generally; and the packing of the highest courts of the land with corporation lawyers, too ready to do the will of their late employers, and to set aside valid and wholesome laws passed by the states and government, upon flimsy pretexts, at the behests of such institutions.

We are opposed to government by injunction.

In state matters we demand: A simple and well-guarded registration law.

A more equitable mode of appointing judges of election.

Stringent laws to regulate the operation of fish traps, fish wheels and all fishing gear in the waters within the jurisdiction of the state.

We denounce and condemn the corrupt and extravagant republican legislative assemblies and charge that the republican party, in its eagerness for the spoils of office, has become divided into

warring factions, to that it is incapable of government, as exemplified by the condition existing in the office of the state treasurer, there being at this time more than a half million of dollars therein wrung from the people by the process of taxation, while state warrants are stamped "Not paid for want of funds."

We demand that all district and county officers be placed upon salaries commensurate with the duties to be performed by them.

Inasmuch as railroad and other corporate property is not bearing its proportion of taxation, we demand that such property shall bear its just and equal share of the expenses of government.

RULE OR RUIN.

"The coining of the seigniorage and the greenback issue are only different ways of adding to our credit money. The seigniorage would give us \$42,000,000 in silver certificates. This, with the proposed greenback issue of \$150,000,000, would add \$192,000,000 to our present volume of \$800,000,000 in paper money. The house will never consent to enact such a financial crime, even under the stress of war."

There you have it—rule or ruin. The populists and democrats offer a means of providing for all the great demands in money for the army and navy and other expenses of the government, but oppose the issue of \$500,000,000 in bonds as unnecessary. They say, however, that should the war be of long duration, and no other way could be devised for raising money for prosecuting the war to a successful conclusion, they would vote for bonds, even though they believe that by so doing they would be paying ten dollars to the money sharks that they might thereby get one dollar to the soldiers and sailors. But the Oregonian tells us that the house will not consent to add to our credit money—"will never consent to enact such a financial crime, EVEN UNDER THE STRESS OF WAR." The Oregonian speaks as one in authority when defining the policy of the gold-standard party. He here gives us plainly to understand that unless the bond proposition of the house bill is not acceded to by the senate, they will leave the government without money, necessitating the recall of our fleets, disbandment of our armies, let the Spaniards triumph, and the United States be the scorn of the nations of the world.

Oliver P. Morton, Indiana's "war governor," afterwards U. S. senator, thus refers to the agents of the Money Power who infested the national capital during the great rebellion: "There is gathered around the capitol of this nation a gang of pirates who thundered successfully at the doors until they had driven this government into the most preposterous acts of bad faith and legalized robbery that ever oppressed a free nation since the dawn of history." Undoubtedly the gang, largely reinforced, are now swarming about the national capitol, and their influence is more to be dreaded than all the fleets and armies of Spain.

THIS IS PROSPERITY.

From New Time, Chicago: Do not lose sight of the fact that prosperity is here. We are enjoying "good times." In a few years 1897 and 1898 will be referred to as specimen periods of great prosperity. The banks are filled with money. There is \$172,000,000 in the gold reserve. Wheat is selling at \$1.25 a bushel. We are gravely informed that everything is booming.

How is it with you? Have your wages been raised? Are you saving money? Have you built a new house? How much of this prosperity has reached you?

After a while we will have a panic. We will have a period of "hard times." They will be so "hard" that you will have no difficulty in recognizing them. Then you will know that which you doubt to-day, viz: that the year 1898 was called a "prosperous" one. Banks will fail; factories will shut down; riots will occur; men will be shot down; wheat will sell at forty cents a bushel.

Prosperity under our system of industry is a temporary cessation of acute misery.

Since the inauguration of McKinley and prosperity more than one hundred trusts have been formed in the United States. The aggregate capital of sixteen of these combines approximates five hundred millions.

Some newspapers claim we ought to annex the Hawaiian islands because Americans have thirty millions invested there. Well, if that is good logic, the United States ought to be annexed to England, because the British have over fifteen billion dollars invested here.

Prosperity with a vengeance: They are still cutting down wages in New England. The Boston Manufacturing Co., of Waltham, Mass., will reduce the wages of 1500 employees 10 per cent. on May 29th, and a strike may result. The Carnegie Company have notified their several thousand employees of a 10 per cent reduction in wages. New York has about 187,000 workers idle, and the appeals for charity are more urgent than ever before.

HONOR THE GREENBACK.

All of the many currency schemes for reforming the currency laws, by the gold-ites, includes the retiring of the greenbacks. There are 346 millions of them, all as good as gold. They will pay all debts, public and private. They were as indispensable as the flag itself in bringing the war to a successful conclusion. The people love them. Many an old veteran has a greenback between the lids of his bible, kept as a family heirloom. In all the years that have passed since Lincoln issued the greenbacks, not one of them has ever been presented to the United States treasury for redemption, save by those who use them as a means to force the issue of bonds and drive upward the price of gold.

The above being true, why this united, determined, persistent effort on the part of the gold-standard financiers to destroy the greenbacks? This is the prayer of the Baltimore convention of bankers, of the Indianapolis convention of bankers, the chief and most odious provision in ex-Secretary of the treasury Carlisle's bill, and the recommendation of Gage, McKinley's secretary of the treasury. All declare the glorious old greenbacks, good as gold for all purposes, must go, to make room for national bank shipplasters that are not legal tenders. They are mere promises of the banker to pay money, and the more they owe the greater their income. Here is the cause of their agony: Had the greenbacks been converted into interest-bearing bonds thirty years ago, the bonds would have become the property of the money-brokers, and become the basis for national bank circulation, and the united political power of the increased number of banks would have made them to-day invincible in all political contests. They could choose all our officers, from the highest to the lowest; they could have declared war or demanded peace with as much power and authority as the czar of Russia. They could and no doubt would have discontinued the payment of all pensions, for the Money Power loves money alone and would fritter away no money on worn-out old soldiers. That would not pay; it would not be "business."

The interest on the bonds and bank notes, at ten per cent., would double every ten years. Thus 346 millions in twenty-eight years would increase to the inconceivable sum of \$3,536,000,000!—a sum sufficient to pay all expenses of the present war, fortify our coasts and construct a world-defying navy. This immense sum has been saved to the people and lost to the Money Power by saving from the flames the non-interest-bearing legal tender greenback—the glorious old greenback, that saved us in war and is preserving us in peace. This is why the bankers are making such agonizing efforts to destroy the greenback—this the hemlock juice that poisons all their joys.

THE POWER OVER ALL POWERS.

An unknown writer thus portrays the power of money: "Give me control of the money of the land—give me the money power, and I will bid defiance to all other powers combined. Talk about the power of the sword! It is harmless against money as a suckling babe. Give me control of the currency of a people, and a hundred ways are open to me to deprive them of their lives, their liberty and their property. Will they fight to retain these blessings? No! for I will use the money to array them against each other; buy them into slavery as soldiers and set them to fighting like Kilkenny cats, till not a grease spot is left to represent their lives. And then, who but me to inherit their property, including the very money for which they laid down both their liberty and their lives?"

Six times in the career of the late Mr. Gladstone, as premier of the house of commons, he has been called upon by the Queen of England to choose a new ministry. When the house of commons votes a "want of confidence in the government" the ministers at once resign and the queen calls upon the premier to name ministers who have the confidence of the commons, the direct representatives and real governing power of England. This is in fact more of a republican government under a monarchy than has the United States under the forms of a republic. In the long and useful career of the "grand old commoner" in the commons, no matter what large sums the exigencies of war would demand, he held to the principle of "PAY AS YOU GO." The estimates were made and taxes levied to cover them, large sums being collected from income and other taxes on the wealthy. We can thus point to old England for lessons in government.

The house of representatives, by a vote of 184 to 11, favors the election of senators by a popular vote. It is not likely to meet with corresponding favor in the senate.